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## **ARTSPACE ARTIST AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

**Artists from Santa Cruz, Fort Lauderdale and Washington, D.C.  
to be honored at May 19 Celebration**

Artspace today announced the recipients of the first Artspace Artist Awards, which will be presented on May 19 at **Breaking Ground – The Artspace Celebration** at the Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts in Minneapolis. The Awards honor three Artspace-affiliated artists, each of whom will receive a \$5,000 grant, and one arts supporter. **Tabatha Mudra**, a resident of the Sailboat Bend Artist Lofts in Fort Lauderdale, will receive the Dejunius Hughes Award for Activism; **Linda Cover** of the Artspace Tannery Lofts in Santa Cruz will receive the Su Job Award for Education; **Quest Skinner** from the Brookland Artspace Lofts in Washington, D.C., will receive the Steve Kramer Award for Community Service. The Paul Brawner Award for Support of the Arts will be presented to **Catherine Jordan** of the Twin Cities.

“By establishing the Artspace Artist Awards, we celebrate just a few of the outstanding artists who give so much to their communities,” said Artspace President Kelley Lindquist. “Inspired by four unique individuals who made an impact on Artspace during their lifetimes – Dejunius Hughes, Su Job, Steve Kramer and Paul Brawner – these awards are our way of shining a light on some of the unsung heroes of the Artspace community.”

### **ABOUT THE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Tabatha Mudra – Sailboat Bend Artist Lofts, Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

<http://tabathamudra.com/>

**Recipient of the Dejunius Hughes Award for Activism**

Despite her young age, Tabatha Mudra has built a career in photography and a lifetime commitment to social justice and community activism.

Tabatha feels that her personal work is her social responsibility. Through her photography, her projects range from portraits to essays chronicling themes that include but are not limited to individual struggle and perseverance, intimacy and relationships and gender identity and self-expression. Her projects have focused on racial stereotyping, gender roles and androgyny and poverty.

In 2009, Tabatha founded *Drag it Out, Inc.* a nonprofit organization that supports and empowers youth and adult members of the LGBTQ community and allies. She designed and created her own “school” of workshops that generate self-esteem and build leadership skills. The workshops inspire individuals to explore gender identity and self-expression through performance art and community activism. Tabatha is highly respected as a leader in South Florida, serving as keynote speaker, panelist, facilitator or organizer at numerous conferences on gender and women’s issues.

Currently, Tabatha is an artist in residence with the Broward County Schools Diversity Department, for which she is working to create an installation called *Broward Talks*, utilizing photography, video and illustration to capture conversations on topics like bullying, same-sex marriage and HIV positive youth, among others, for public viewing and commentary.

### **Linda Cover – Artspace Tannery Lofts, Santa Cruz, California**

<http://www.lindacover.org/>

#### **Recipient of the Su Job Award for Education**

Linda Cover, a long-time artist, community organizer, naturalist and educator, uses visual art and poetry to teach kids to be stewards of the environment. She has inspired her students to create award-winning artwork and poetry as a SPECTRA teaching artist in Santa Cruz County. Following her example, Linda’s students have become a part of the community through exhibits and events. They’ve cleaned the sloughs, rivers, and neighborhoods; taken pictures of dirty rivers for shows; participated in gallery events as equals with adult artists; and had their art and poetry displayed at libraries, government centers and on local buses and walls everywhere... inside and outside.

As one of the founding residents of Artspace Tannery Lofts, Linda saw both need and opportunity at the Tannery. She founded Camp Tannery Arts, which brings kids to the Tannery campus each summer for hands-on, interactive arts education. Linda brings together the entire Tannery Arts Campus through the Camp, with Tannery Lofts resident artists and Working Studio tenants teaching, donating time, materials or space to the Campers each summer, including the more than 50 kids who live at Artspace Tannery Lofts. By utilizing the community in which she lives, Linda has created a simple, cost-effective model for arts education that can be easily replicated and is one of the crowning jewels of the Tannery Arts Center.

**Quest Skinner – Brookland Artspace Lofts, Washington, D.C.**

<http://www.questskinner.com>

**Recipient of the Steve Kramer Award for Community Service**

Quest Skinner loves sharing her creativity and talents as a tool for building communities. Cultivating public spaces that are inviting and lively reflect the energy and vibrancy that she brings to her work. Even before becoming one of the original residents of Washington D.C.'s Brookland Artspace Lofts she was an integral part of the greater Brookland/Edgewood community. For several years she has lent her artistic talent to the Beacon House project in the adjacent Edgewood Terrace community by teaching fall and summer art classes to kids from pre-school age to high school. Since moving into Brookland Artspace Lofts she has collaborated with Dance Place to provide free summer art classes in the Selman Gallery and Dance Place 2.

Quest's work can be seen on projects large and small all over D.C. She has produced commissioned murals for the Metropolitan Branch Trail, and the famous "Edgewood 2 the Edge of the World" mural at the Rhode Island Plaza, which is D.C.'s largest. The Quest-mobile, her butterfly festooned art van, is itself both a work of art and a slice of D.C. life. Her booth at Capitol Hill's Eastern Market has become a touchstone for the community. There, she dispenses fantastic art, words of wisdom, and advice on where to find the best lunch, all with a smile that exemplifies her open heart and colorful style! Within the Brookland Artspace Lofts, Quest is the heart and soul of the community and a driving force in making Brookland one of the most active Artspace projects. Her rich and colorfully vibrant works are showcased often in the gallery, and hallways of the Brookland Lofts. Quest draws the residents of the building together

by arranging mixers, workshops, communal meals, and summertime cookouts, and always reaches out to the surrounding neighbors to join in the backyard barbecues.

### **Catherine Jordan – Minneapolis, Minnesota**

#### **Recipient of the Paul Brawner Award for Support of the Arts**

Catherine Jordan, a founding member of the Artspace Board of Directors, is an entrepreneurial executive with successful experience founding and leading non-profit organizations. Growing up in a family immersed in the arts and creativity, Catherine directed her creativity toward producing and organizing artists, educating teenagers, creating artistic events and leading arts organizations.

Catherine got her start as an arts administrator at the Women’s Art Registry of Minnesota, better known as the WARM Art Gallery, and she credits WARM with providing her on-the-job training in arts administration. Over the years, she has provided leadership to organizations and initiatives throughout the state of Minnesota, including the Bush Foundation, United Arts Council, the Northwest Area Foundation, the Cultural Star Fund of St. Paul, Firststar Capital New Year Festival, At The Foot of the Mountain theater company, Intermedia Arts, Circus Juventas and the Artist Fellowship Program for the Blacklock Nature Sanctuary, among many others.

Throughout her career, she has used art for social change. As a health educator, she used theater and video techniques to help teenagers talk about sexual health and drug abuse prevention, producing an award-winning film on adolescent contemporary rites of passage, *Some Of The Things That Go On Out There*, and an award-winning adolescent HIV/AIDS prevention video, *All Of Us And AIDS*. She toured the state of Minnesota in the child sexual abuse prevention productions *Touch* and *No Easy Answers*. Collaborating with other artists, Catherine formed *Arts Over AIDS* to encourage the Minnesota arts community to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic with life affirming activities, education and World AIDS Day events.

Catherine has served on the boards of In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater, the National Coalition of United Arts Funds, New Day Films, and the Alliance for Cultural Democracy. She currently serves on the board of the Blacklock Nature Sanctuary. Her service to the Artspace Board includes the hiring of Kelley Lindquist as Executive Director.

## **ABOUT THE CELEBRATION**

Breaking Ground – The Artspace Celebration, is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 19, at The Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts in Minneapolis. Tickets for Breaking Ground are priced at \$20 and are now on sale to the public through the Cowles Center Box Office (<http://www.thecowlescenter.org>). The event will be streamed live to Artspace’s national network of resident artists, partners and supporters. Information on the live stream can be found at [artspace.org/breakingground](http://artspace.org/breakingground).

Breaking Ground – The Artspace Celebration, now in its second year, is the annual celebration that unites the national Artspace community of nearly 2,000 artists and 250 creative enterprises affiliated with Artspace’s 35 completed projects in 24 cities coast to coast. As Artspace celebrates the achievements of 2013 at Breaking Ground, we also look ahead to the milestones coming up this year. The growth of Artspace in recent years has led to new projects opening in Minneapolis, Seattle and Minot this year, while artists will begin moving in to Artspace’s first New York City project in the fall. Construction is slated to begin in 2014 on projects in New Orleans; Loveland, Colorado; Hamilton, Ohio; and Michigan City, Indiana.

## **PERFORMANCES**

Featured performers include the phenomenal percussive dance and drum duo **Buckets and Tap Shoes**. Brothers Rick and Andy Ausland are world-traveling tap masters, taking their high-energy blend of music, dance and percussion from the streets of Minneapolis to theaters around the globe. Visit their website at [bucketsandtapshoes.com](http://bucketsandtapshoes.com) to find links to video and all their social media.

Anyone who's a fan of "The Voice" on NBC will not forget **Ashley DuBose** performing an amazing rendition of "Diamonds" ([nbc.com/the-voice/video/ashley-dubose-diamonds/n41391](http://nbc.com/the-voice/video/ashley-dubose-diamonds/n41391)). *City Pages* recently named this talented singer/songwriter Best Female Vocalist in the Twin Cities, and *Rolling Stone* called her “an all-around awesome artist, the total package.” Ashley, an Artspace resident artist, joins us at the Cowles to perform at Breaking Ground. Visit Ashley's website at [ashleydubose.com](http://ashleydubose.com) for music, video and more.

The 2014 Celebration culminates in a tribute to a city that will soon have an Artspace project under construction, as New Orleans jazz trumpet master **James Andrews** comes to the other end of the Mississippi to help us celebrate! James, also known as Satchmo of the Ghetto, came up through a variety of brass bands (Tremé Brass Band, New Birth Brass Band) before forming his own. James has played with Quincy Jones, Dizzy Gillespie, Danny Barker, Dr. John and Michelle Shocked. A protégé of soul man Allen Toussaint and older brother to Trombone Shorty, James has taken his place alongside of contemporaries swinging the New Orleans tradition in contemporary ways. Learn more about James on his website at [jamesandrewsmusic.com](http://jamesandrewsmusic.com).

Hosting this year's event is **John Moe**, from American Public Media's hilarious show "Wits" ([witsradio.org](http://witsradio.org)). John has a long and varied career in public radio as well as comedy. He served as host of "Marketplace Tech Report" and "Weekend America," both national programs heard on public radio stations. His reporting and commentary have been heard on "All Things Considered," "Marketplace," "Day to Day," and numerous other public radio programs. John is the author of *Conservatize Me: How I Tried to Become a Righty with the Help of Richard Nixon, Sean Hannity, Toby Keith, and Beef Jerky* (2006). His latest book, *Dear Luke, We Need To Talk, Darth: And Other Pop Culture Correspondences*, is due out on June 10. His writing has appeared in numerous humor anthologies, the *New York Times Magazine*, and *McSweeney's*, among many other publications. John has been a lead singer in rock bands, a writer of video games, an editor at Amazon.com, and he once got fired for washing dishes the wrong way. Follow John on Twitter at [twitter.com/johnmoe](http://twitter.com/johnmoe).

Artspace is honored to have a wonderful group of artists, civic leaders, funders and supporters from across the country serving on the Breaking Ground Host Committee in support of Artspace. Co-chaired by Artspace board members **Blythe Brenden** and **Randy Loomis**, the Host Committee includes **Devon M. Akmon**, Director, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, MI; **Peter Beard**, Senior VP, United Way Worldwide, Alexandria, VA; **Carol Bebel**, Executive Director, Ashé Cultural Arts Center, New Orleans, LA; **Randy Bourscheidt**, President Emeritus, Alliance for the Arts, New York, NY; **Cecil Cirillo**, Economic Development, Santa Cruz, CA; **Sue Coliton**, VP, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Seattle, WA; **Roy Gabay**, President, Roy Gabay Theatrical Production and Management, New York, NY; Councilmember **Lisa Goodman**, Minneapolis, MN; Mayor **Cecil Gutierrez**, Loveland, CO; **Jonn Hankins**, President, New Orleans Master Crafts Guild, New Orleans, LA; **Jim Kelley**, Executive

Director, 4Culture, Seattle, WA; **Maria López de León**, Executive Director, National Association of Latino Arts & Culture, San Antonio, TX; **Betty Massey**, Executive Director, Mary Moody Northen Endowment, Galveston, TX; **Sean McGlynn**, Department of Cultural Affairs, El Paso, TX; **Gretchen McLennon**, Hyde Foundation, Memphis, TN; Mayor **Jack O'Reilly**, Dearborn, MI; **Carla Perlo**, Founding Director, Dance Place, Washington, DC; **Lori Pourier**, President, First Peoples Fund, Rapid City, SD; **Rosalba Rolón**, Artistic Director, Pregones Theater, New York, NY; **Andrew Solomon**, Author, New York, NY; and **Cree Zischke**, VP, Global Philanthropy & Community Relations, JP Morgan Chase Foundation, AZ.

Breaking Ground – The Artspace Celebration is generously sponsored by iDream.tv, The Line, Arts ink, Eide Bailly LLP, UrbanWorks Architecture LLC, Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P. and Mason's Restaurant Barre.

### **About Artspace**

Artspace is the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation, with 35 projects in operation across the country and another dozen in development, representing a unique, \$600 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. Through its Consulting division, Artspace has brought its hard-earned expertise to more than 300 cultural planning efforts from coast-to-coast. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington D.C., Artspace is America's leading developer of arts facilities. To date we have completed nearly 2,000 affordable live/work units for artists and their families as well as more than a million square feet of non-residential space for artists and arts organizations. Additional information is available at [www.artspace.org](http://www.artspace.org).

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